SENATE BILL 22

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 5, relative to the offenses of rape of a child and aggravated rape of a child.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-13-522, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:
 - (b) A person convicted of rape of a child shall be punished by:
 - (1) Imprisonment for life; or
 - (2) Imprisonment for life without possibility of parole.
 - (c) The procedure, requirements and guidelines for imposing punishment and execution of sentence for a violation of this section shall be the same as that provided in part 2 of this chapter for the offense of murder in the first degree.
- SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-13-531, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:
 - (b) A person convicted of aggravated rape of a child shall be punished by:
 - (1) Imprisonment for life:
 - (2) Imprisonment for life without possibility of parole; or
 - (3) Death.
 - (c) The procedure, requirements and guidelines for imposing punishment and execution of sentence for a violation of this section shall be the same as that provided in part 2 of this chapter for the offense of murder in the first degree.
 - SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.